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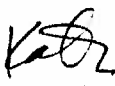
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MEMORANDUM

TO: DSN Boards
Contracted Service Providers

FROM: Kathi K. Lacy, Ph.D. 
Associate State Director, Policy

DATE: March 31, 2010

SUBJECT: Draft Directive 732-01-DD

The below mentioned draft directive is being sent out for comment. Please review and forward any comments/suggestions to Angela Syphertt on or before April 29, 2010.

Reference #	Directive Title	Status	Applicability
732-01-DD	Exceptional Service Coordination for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs in Alternative Residential Placements	Revised	DSN Boards, Contracted Service Coordination Providers

Deletions and wording changes are being recommended to this directive by Dr. Kathi Lacy (Associate State Director of Policy), Steve Von Hollen (Director of Clinical Services), and Angela Syphertt, (Director of Service Coordination and Plan Development). Tracked changes are included in the attached policy to assist readers during review. Please review and provide comments prior to or on April 29, 2010. Thank you.

DISTRICT I

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DISTRICT II

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Pee Dee Center - Phone: 843/664-2600
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Reference Number: 732-01-DD

Title of Document: Exceptional Service Coordination for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs in Alternative Residential Placement

Date of Issue: March 1, 1989
Effective Date: March 1, 1989
Last Review Date: March 29, 2010 (REVISED)
Date of Last Revision: March 29, 2010

Applicability: DSN Board, Contracted Service Providers

Some Ppersons with disabilities and special needs eligible for DDSN services may require services that cannot be provided by the Regional Centers, ~~or~~ county DSN Boards, or contracted service providers. These persons, nevertheless, should be seen as appropriate for the Department of Disabilites and Special Needs (DDSN) services and receives service coordination from the county DSN Board or a qualified service coordination provider in cooperation with the state office.

An alternative residential placement is a residential treatment facility, group home facility or therapeutic family home setting for children or adults operated outside the ~~DDSN system network~~**DDSN's Organized Health Care Delivery System**. When an alternative placement is needed, the service coordinator (SC) should develop a service plan that outlines **the person's needs**, the agency or combination of agencies that should provide needed services, ~~in cooperation~~**along with the services provided through the DDSN service system (cost share/shared funding service plan) and as** authorized by the Office of Clinical Services in the state office **and with approval of the Associate State Director, Administration. Approval is subject to availability of resources, concurrence with placement resolution if needed, and agreement with the plan.** The ~~service coordinator~~(SC), with the assistance of the DDSN state office, will actively advocate for the implementation of the plan and will utilize all interagency agreements and referrals such as the S.C. Protection and Advocacy System for People with Disabilities Inc. (P&A), the Children's Case Resolution System (CCRS), or the Interagency System for Caring for Emotionally Disturbed Children (ISCEDC) to achieve the necessary services. Waiting lists, both DDSN's and other agencies', will need to be considered; however, urgency of need will continue to be used in placing people in alternative residential placement in priority order.

~~People with complex needs may not be able to participate in services usually provided through the DDSN system even with the assistance of other agencies. In such cases, the Department may enter into an interagency agreement for an amount not greater than the amount of state funds DDSN would spend for someone in residential care as part of an interagency funding pool to purchase services in alternative placement.~~

To qualify for this funding, the person must meet the eligibility requirements of the DDSN and have needs that cannot be met within the DDSN service system. A plan for interagency services still must be developed by the service coordinator in conjunction with the DDSN state office and

other involved agencies and funding approval by the Deputy Director of Administration and the Director of Clinical Services received before alternative placement is provided. Approval is subject to the availability of appropriate fiscal resources, concurrence with placement resolution, if indicated, and agreement with the plan.

DDSN will cooperate with other agencies to develop the needed specialized service providers within the State of South Carolina whenever possible. ~~Service coordinators~~ SCs will utilize the same advocacy and coordinating agencies in advocating for an interagency cost share/shared funding plan in cooperation with the state office.

Legislation required that the Office of the Governor join with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and other key agencies to form the Interagency System for Caring for Emotionally Disturbed Children (ISCEDC). The Division of ~~Managed Treatment Services for Children (MTS)~~ **Intensive Foster Care and Clinical Services (IFCSS)** was established at the DSS in July 1996 to serve emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children in DSS custody who reside in, or who are being considered for out-of-home therapeutic (alternative residential) placements. Children who are eligible for DDSN services may be taken into DSS custody and may be eligible to receive services in a therapeutic placement funded by ISCEDC. DDSN is one of several agencies that contribute annually to the ISCEDC fund in order for DSS to provide out-of-home therapeutic services to children in their custody with emotional and behavioral disturbances. Individual interagency cost share agreements are not made on DDSN service recipients receiving alternative residential placement services through ISCEDC.

As a statement of principle, ~~the Department~~ **DDSN** will not focus on the primary diagnosis, i.e., mental retardation versus some other disability, in determining a person's eligibility for service coordination or other services. If a person has mental retardation and is determined eligible to receive services (**please refer to 100-30-DD for DDSN's eligibility criteria**), DDSN will provide the service coordination necessary to work out a shared service or cost share/shared funding plan to meet the person's needs for alternative placement. DDSN will apply the State Code criteria in order to determine their eligibility for DDSN services. **When a service recipient is admitted to an alternative placement, service coordination will be provided by the DSN Board or qualified service coordination provider where the services recipient resides.**

The Department's eligibility criteria include people with mental retardation or related disabilities. An IQ of 70 or below is not, in and of itself, enough to establish Departmental eligibility. Persons must also show significant and concurrent delays in adaptive functioning and other evidence sufficient to demonstrate that the IQ and adaptive behavior are a true reflection of his/her ability and not a result of lack of cooperation, temporary emotional disability or behavioral disturbance, lack of educational achievement, or other such factors which may temporarily lower a person's score on an IQ test and suppress one's adaptive functioning abilities.

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Beverly A. H. Buscemi, Ph.D.
State Director
(Approved)